

## Message Text

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11  
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
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E O 11652: NA  
TAGS: BEXP, GE, EEWT, PFOR  
SUBJ: US-GDR JOINT TRADE COMMITTEE

1. IN CONVERSATION  
AT THE LEIPZIG FAIR SCHMIED AND KIRSTEN OF THE FOREIGN  
TRADE MINISTRY DISCUSSED INFORMALLY WITH ECON/COMM  
OFFICER HOW THE GDR ENVISIONS A JOINT US-GDR TRADE COMMITTEE.  
THEY INTEND TO NOMINATE, ON THE GDR SIDE, BEIL AS CHAIRMAN,  
WITH SUBCOMMITTEES ON TRADE, BANKING AND SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY WITH GDR CO-CHAIRMAN, RESPECTIVELY, NITZSCHE  
OF CHEMIE-EXPORT, POLZE OF FOREIGN TRADE BANK, AND  
STUBENRACH, STATE SECRETARY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE  
AND TECHNOLOGY. OTHER GDR MEMBERS WOULD INCLUDE DIRECTOR  
GENERAL NEUMANN OF UNITECHNA, HORST PETER OF WMW, AND  
DIRECTOR GENERAL PROHN OF THE SCHWEDT PETROCHEMICAL KOMBINAT.  
THERE WOULD BE NO PERMANENT APPARATUS, BUT SUB-COMMITTEES  
WOULD MEET FROM TIME TO TIME TO TAKE UP CONCRETE QUESTIONS.  
THE GDR DOES NOT ENVISION THAT THE GDR CHAMBER FOR  
FOREIGN TRADE WILL PLAY A ROLE. SCHMIED AND KIRSTEN HAD  
LITTLE TO SAY ABOUT HOW THEY THOUGHT THE US SIDE WOULD  
ORGANIZE ITSELF. IT APPEARS, HOWEVER, THAT THEY ENVISION  
THAT THEIR MAJOR INDUSTRIAL AND BANKING PARTNERS IN THE US  
WOULD BE CHARTER MEMBERS WITH APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE AND  
SUB-COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRMEN SELECTED FROM THEIR RANKS. ECON/  
COMMOFF TOLD THEM IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE US SIDE OF  
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THE COMMITTEE NOT APPEAR TO US BUSINESS AT LARGE AS A

CLOSED CLUB. SCHMIED AND KIRSTEN PROBED GENTLY ABOUT WHAT  
ROLE THE US GOVERNMENT MIGHT PLAY IN THE COMMITTEE. EMBASSY  
ECON/COMMOFF MADE CLEAR THAT WE VIEW COMMITTEE AS A PRIVATE  
ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN INTERESTED BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS  
IN THE US AND GDR. HE TOLD THEM THE USG IS, HOWEVER,  
SYMPATHETIC WITH THIS PROJECT, WHICH IS CONSISTENT  
WITH OUR SUPPORT FOR EFFORTS TO EXPAND PRIVATE TRADE  
CONTACTS.

2. GDR REPRESENTATIVES SAID THEY WOULD HAVE SOMETHING  
MORE FORMAL ON THE SUBJECT LATER.COOPER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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